

Amendment and Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Applicant: Tod A. Kinsley et al.

Serial No.: 10/736,245

Filed: December 15, 2003

Docket No.: 200309606-1 (H302.336.101)

Title: MEDIA TRAY DAMPER

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-21.

No claims are amended.

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A media handling device comprising:

 a frame including a pair of first protrusions with each first protrusion disposed on opposite sides of the frame and at least one second protrusion;

 a media tray mountable to the frame for pivotal movement between a first position and a second position relative to the frame, and including a finger portion protruding from an end of the media tray, wherein the finger portion is made from a thermoplastic material; and

 a damper disposed on the frame and including a contact portion shaped for maintaining frictional engagement with the finger portion of the media tray, wherein at least the contact portion of the damper is made from an elastomeric material,

 wherein the at least one second protrusion is configured for removably mounting the damper on the frame in a position adjacent one of the first protrusions of the frame.

23. (Previously Presented) The media handling device of claim 22 wherein the media tray comprises a pair of securing holes disposed on opposite sides of the media tray with each of the securing holes configured for pivotal mounting on each of respective first protrusions of the frame to enable the media tray for pivotal movement relative to the frame.

24. (Previously Presented) The media handling device of claim 22 wherein the damper comprises a slot configured for slidably mounting the damper on the at least one second protrusion of the frame.

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25. (Previously Presented) The media handling device of claim 22 wherein the at least one second protrusion comprises a pair of second protrusions and the damper comprises a pair of dampers, with the second protrusions disposed on opposite sides of the frame adjacent each of the first protrusions and with each of the dampers mounted on the respective second protrusions.

26. (Previously Presented) A media handling device comprising:

 a frame including a protrusion;

 a media tray including:

 a body;

 an inner end from which a finger portion protrudes generally perpendicular relative to the body of the media tray, the finger portion made from a thermoplastic material;

 a securing portion disposed on the inner end of the body of the media tray and including a hole configured for pivotally mounting the media tray on the protrusion of the frame for pivotal movement between a first position and a second position relative to the frame; and

 a damper disposed on the frame and including a curved contact portion adapted to slidably receive the finger portion of the media tray, the damper positioned on the frame relative to the point of pivotal mounting between the media tray and the frame to maintain frictional engagement between the finger portion of the media tray, wherein at least the contact portion of the damper is made from an elastomeric material.

27. (Previously Presented) A media handling device comprising:

 a frame;

 a media tray mountable to the frame for pivotal movement between a first position and a second position relative to the frame, and including a finger portion protruding from an end of the media tray, wherein the finger portion is made from a thermoplastic material; and

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a damper disposed on the frame and including a contact portion shaped for maintaining frictional engagement with the finger portion of the media tray, wherein at least the contact portion of the damper is made from an elastomeric material and the contact portion includes:

a first contact surface configured to maintain the media tray in its second position relative to the frame;

a second contact surface having a concave surface and configured to enable the frictional engagement as sliding movement between the concave surface and the finger portion of the media tray to move the media tray between its first position and the second position; and

a third contact surface configured to maintain the media tray in its first position relative to the frame.

28. (Previously Presented) The media handling device of claim 27 wherein the second contact surface of the damper has a radius of curvature that varies to maintain a substantially uniform velocity of the media tray as its pivots between the first position and the second position; and

wherein the first contact surface and the third contact surface of the damper each comprise a flat surface that forms an obtuse angle relative to the second contact surface.